

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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Editors can only follow where the people's heart is already prepared to go with them. They can direct and animate a healthy public indignation, but not "create a soul between the ribs of death."—Horace Greeley.

THE LESSON OF THE CONVENTION

Republicans of Honolulu will go into the fall campaign with a ticket that has elements of much strength and elements of some weakness, that is on the whole a strong ticket and that is just the kind of ticket that was to be expected under the present system of nomination by convention.

The supervisorial ticket, to which most attention was paid during the last few weeks of the pre-convention work, should be fairly strong. Its vote-getting ability is going to depend a good deal on the character of the campaign that will be conducted and the kind of men the Democrats put up. The ticket is a better average ticket than that of the party two years ago and the board ought to be a better board than the one Honolulu is just getting rid of.

The legislative ticket is a very strong one and ought to win hands down. The candidates for the upper house are men of known ability and experience and the same is true of practically all of the candidates for the lower house. The legislative ticket has both efficiency and vote-getting ability.

Col. Sam Parker's strength at the head of the county ticket is a matter of doubt in certain quarters and of much confidence in others. Not a few wise politicians believe that he can beat Joe Fern, but this opinion is by no means universal and Col. Parker and his friends will have to put a whole lot of energy, persistency and personal work into his campaign. The county clerk, county auditor and county attorney ought to win with ease and help pull the ticket up besides. The candidate for treasurer will receive very strong support from the business community as well as in the rank and file of the voters, but Robert Parker will have his hands full trying to down Sheriff Jarrett, and Costa is facing nearly as hard a job in the deputy sheriffship.

To offset the general strength of the ticket, there is considerable hard feeling engendered because of the powerful combination that swept certain candidates into nomination and crushed certain others. Several good men were shoved aside ruthlessly by the inter-precinct combine that controlled 200 votes. Such is the case in any convention under Honolulu's present system and such will always be the case under this system. A number of precincts feel that they were flattened out simply because they stuck to their guns and their own candidates and refused to trade them off.

Yesterday's convention was a pertinent illustration of both the benefits and the evils of the convention system. The combination absolutely dominated the 326 delegates present, and any counter-program was doomed from the outset. The combination was made possible by trades in which some good men were sacrificed for some men not so good. And that is the evil of the convention system under the best of management.

The combination of yesterday secured a generally good ticket because it was a combination in which were a number of men of personal integrity and sincerity of purpose. In less scrupulous hands such a combination could hardly fail to be as dangerous as it would be vindictive and corrupt. And corrupt combinations are always likely to be made under the convention system.

The Republican party of the territory has again pledged itself to pass a direct primary law. That pledge has been violated in the past, but the shame of the party will be complete if it is violated again. The direct primary law will end the combinations that crush down good men and elevate poor men, and will give every citizen a chance to go before the electorate on his merits and without fear that his own party may knife him in the back.

THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL HOUSE FOR HAWAII

One of the most progressive planks in the Republican platform went through the convention yesterday with no more attention to it than a few half-derivative laughs in place of assent. That plank calls for the extension of the use of schoolhouses by communities, for legitimate public gatherings.

Within the past few years the use of school-

houses as "community centers" has grown rapidly on the mainland, and in New York and Wisconsin particularly the schoolhouse has become the focus of a large part of the community life. The structures are used for almost any kind of public meetings, political and otherwise, for entertainments, for dramatic and debating societies, for charitable enterprises, and in particular for any kind of assembly that brings the citizens—men, women and children—of the community together for purposes of the public good.

School directors, county and municipal governments, state governments, have come to realize that the schoolhouse can be made a powerful factor in promoting the education of a community beyond the teaching of reading, writing and arithmetic to its youth. Furthermore, such a policy makes powerful friends for the school system among the parents of the school-going children and those who have no children.

The old idea of the "town meeting," so prevalent in certain parts of New England, and a very excellent idea, too, is revived largely by the establishment of the schoolhouse as a public center, and the encouragement of this idea in Hawaii should develop the whole community on lines of common good and understanding.

MERCHANT MARINE GROWING AT LAST

After years of efforts, confined mostly to oratory, however, to upbuild the American merchant marine, it appears that the Congress has helped along wonderfully by the passage of the Panama canal bill. In the discussion over the free-tolls provision and Britain's protest, the other clauses of the measure have been overlooked, but Hawaii will be interested in the results that already are coming about. The clause assuring free passage of the canal to American coastwise ships, the clause giving duty-free materials and equipment and that granting American registry to foreign-built ships when owned by Americans has started an era of rapid development. The tonnage of American ships under construction has jumped one hundred and fifty per cent. over the figures of a year ago. Moreover, a number of foreign-built ships are being purchased abroad and put under American registry. The department of commerce and labor believes that within two years the American merchant marine will be restored to its former magnitude.

The Republicans of Honolulu won a fair fight for an open ballot in their convention yesterday and the result of that victory should be permanent. The plan adopted by the convention yesterday gives all the publicity usually necessary to the action of any delegation without clogging the work of such a body with a long series of roll-calls. It is very probable that in other conventions the secret methods advocated yesterday by Lorin Andrews with such fallacious wordiness will be tried again, but they should be beaten again.

When the free garbage system called for in the Republican platform is established, one of its first jobs should be to sweep up and incinerate some of the crooked politicians who try to use the party for their own selfish purposes.

Kaimuki, independent to the last in the county convention, put up a candidate for deputy sheriff. He perished as had the other Kaimuki candidates before him—a victim to the Cause of the Lone Hand.

London suffragettes are planning a "march of liberty" from London to Edinburgh. It is hardly far enough to suit the rest of the Londoners.

If Australia is afraid of the American beef trust, she might arrange a little reciprocity for the mutton that comes here by the shipload.

The convention is over. Let's forget the factional fights it engendered and join hands in a vigorous county campaign.

The way Col. Sam Parker swept the convention for mayor is not exactly a pleasant surprise to the Democrats.

Those Mexican prisoners whose disposal is puzzling the United States might be put to work on the roads.

Nicaragua seems determined to get free advertising.

Farewell, Hanawaki!

POWERFUL COMBINATION

(Continued from Page 1)

was on the secret ballot fight, which was settled some time after the last edition of the Star-Bulletin went to press yesterday afternoon. This was really the crisis of the convention, for there was doubt if the combination would hold together under a secret system of balloting.

The fight came on the adoption of



CHARLES KANEKOA
Nominated for house

the minority report of the rules committee, which was against the secret balloting and in favor of the chairman of each delegation announcing the vote of that delegation after a caucus among its members on the various questions as they came up. The minority report was presented by John A. Wise and Wise got a political advantage at the start by getting his report in before the majority report was presented. Thus the minority report was the thing emphasized.

The fight over the report was characterized by an exchange of compliments between Wise and Lorin Andrews. Andrews had framed the rules committee up so that a majority for his pet plan of a secret ballot was assured, and Andrews led the fight on



D. KALAUOKALANI, JR.
Renominated for county clerk

the convention floor against the adoption of the minority report. He declared that it was a plan of the interests to see that the votes they had bought were delivered. In fact, he made quite a speech, taking a few flings at Wise. Wise got back at him by referring to Andrews as the "jurist from Shanghai," a significant reference calculated to make the "jurist from Shanghai" squirm.

Eloquence Wasted. However, Andrews' eloquence was wasted. The open ballot forces were far too strong, the minority report being adopted by a vote of 191 to 135. After this, the combination was unbeatable.

Cox's Action a Surprise. About the only upset was in the naming of this rules committee. The general steering committee believed that Cox would favor an open ballot to the extent at least of naming a committee the majority of whom would be in sympathy with the open ballot plan and so report. As a matter of fact, most if not all of these leaders thought that Cox was with them on this proposition, and did not know until he actually read out the

names of the committee that he was with the secret ballot forces so far as naming the Andrews-framed committee was concerned.

However, there is no criticism today of Cox's handling of the convention as chairman yesterday. He was considered fair to both sides in his rulings and when the convention passed a vote of thanks for him last night, it was hearty. He could have blocked action, for a while at least, on the open ballot by declaring that on the viva voce vote the "noes" against the minority report prevailed, but instead he allowed a division and a roll-call. He made a very good presiding officer and all factions were well satisfied and thanked him for his impartiality.

Entire Ticket Goes Through. The combination put through its entire ticket, and the nominees for all the county offices and for the legislative offices represent the results of this smooth-running convention organization.

As it stands, the supervisorial ticket is a compromise. When John Waterhouse decided he would not run and F. L. Waldron declined to be a candidate, the early plans were upset. Craig withdrew and Paris came to the front with a rush yesterday and was settled upon as part of the general arrangement. Noltey was the choice of his precinct of the fifth and his endorsement by the Republican leaders of the Fourth helped gather in voting strength in the convention for the supervisors and for the legislative ticket. The nomination of J. M. Dowsett was made one of the paramount issues and he was never in danger of defeat. He was given very strong support in the convention and will be given strong support in the campaign. Long was preferred to R. W. Aylett as a candidate for supervisor and this morning expressions of opinion among the business men indicate that he has their influence and support and that his presence on the ticket will be of much assistance in the campaign.

POLITICAL INTERVIEWS

Capt. Robert W. Parker—I am thankful to the delegates for giving me the nomination for sheriffalty. From now on, I will try my best to get elected. With the support of the Republican party, I believe I will be elected in November.

James Bleknell—Why, I thought there was going to be a dark horse in the convention for the position of city and county auditor. Work is the next order of business.

George Smithies—I am looking for a speedy horse for the coming campaign. I have an uphill fight; but, with the cooperation of the Republican workers, I think the result of the election will be satisfactory. I will have to digest my Hawaiian language.

Oscar P. Cox—I am glad that the Republican county convention ended its work last night with a great deal of satisfaction. As a party-man, I will vote the straight Republican ticket in November.

David Kalaokalani, Jr.—The campaign time is at hand, and the next thing to do is to go out and shake hands with everybody.

Ulysses H. Jones—This is my first experience in running for the House of Representatives. If elected, I will do what is right for everybody, rich or poor.

Henry Vierra—If elected to the House of Representatives, I will legislate laws to meet with the approval of the public. I am going to speak Chinese during the campaign. The Chinese voters have asked me to talk to them in Chinese, otherwise I will not get their support.

S. K. Mahoe—Waialua is all right, and I think I will be all right, too, during the election.

Andrew Cox—I served on the Board of Supervisors before, and if elected in November will render better service to the general public.

Wm. J. Coelho—The politicians are lining up now. My fight will be on Maui.

Col. Sam Parker—I am thankful to the delegates for giving the nomination for the mayoralty. I am going to renew my acquaintance with all my friends. That is the only way to get their support, if at all.

George F. Renton—This morning I received the congratulations of my friends on the streets. I think I stopped on the street one hundred and fifty times. Some strange faces came up to me and extended their mahalo nui.

E. K. Fernandez—I did not dream that I would pull through the political valley of death. I am glad now that the delegates placed their confidence in me. If elected, I will do what is right.

A. Q. Marcellino—I thank you for the congratulations. I am going to prepare myself for the fight.

J. H. Boyd—If elected to the House of Representatives, I will introduce a bill raising the sanitary standard of the fishmarket. Nui ka mahalo to my friends.

A. S. Kaleiopu—The fight has been strenuous, but, after all, the results have been generally satisfactory.

J. Kamanoulu—I think I will be made chairman of the printing committee.

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